

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 17 MAR 50 50X1-HUM

SUBJECT Military Information on Albania

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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1. In addition to the three infantry divisions which have been in existence for several years (1 Division at Tirana, 5 Division at Gjinokaster, and 8 Division at Korce), a fourth division, believed to be numbered 6, was recently set up at Peshkop, and a unit of regimental or brigade strength at Vlone.
2. The D.P. Division has been expanded to five regiments: two mobile, two frontier and one coastal. There are in addition several independent mobile battalions.
3. Barracks in the Tirana area are reported to be located as follows:
 - a. Shkumbini barracks, in Kavaje Street, which quarters troops of 1 Division.
 - b. MAP barracks, 3 kms. along the Tirana-Elbasan road.
 - c. Tank Regiment barracks, on the Tirana Durres road; 500 meters from Tirana airfield.
 - d. Signals Unit barracks, on the Tirana-Dibra road, 150 meters from the civilian hospital.
4. The Motor Repair Unit is located next to the Tank Regiment barracks; artillery workshops are opposite the new prison.
5. The main military hospital is in Tirana, but there are divisional hospitals at Gjinokaster and Korce.
6. A small factory for the manufacture of military clothing and footwear is located on the Tirana-Kavaje road, approximately 1 kilometer from Tirana.
7. Fuel stations, which were formerly located near the Tank Regiment barracks, were transferred about the beginning of 1949 to the foothills of Mount Iajthi (sic - Dajthi?), some 7 kms. from Tirana.

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Document No. 11
No Change in Class. ☐
☐ Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 15 JUL 1978

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8. Most weapons of other than Soviet origin have now been removed. Motor transport is of Soviet [] manufacture. It is said to be in very short supply, and in poor condition. 50X1-HUM
9. The Tank Regiment at Tirana is reportedly equipped with 15 light or medium tanks, believed to be of [] Soviet, Yugoslav [] manufacture. A few heavy Soviet tanks are believed to be stored away.
10. The Military College at Tirana, located on the road to Durres 500 meters from the airfield, gives short preliminary courses preparatory to attendance at military schools in the USSR. Special emphasis is placed on the training of specialist personnel, such as pilots, signalmen and engine mechanics. Courses in the USSR last two years.
11. The combined military school at Tirana, located on the Tirana-Dibra road, 150 meters beyond the military hospital, gives six months finishing courses, for NCOs or those who played a prominent part with the partisans during the war. At the end of the course successful candidates are made officer cadets. Training includes a course for aspirant political commissars.
12. Private soldiers are paid 5 lek a day. Regular NCOs, all of whom are ex-partisans, receive from 2,000 to 2,700 lek per month, whereas conscript NCOs are paid on the same scale as the privates. The pay of officers varies according to appointment; thus, a second lieutenant in charge of a battalion services unit may receive more pay than a major serving in a minor capacity in a regimental headquarters. A second lieutenant receives between 3,000 and 4,000 lek per month. Messing and clothing are free.
13. Senior officers, and senior Party members, are entitled to extra food and clothing from special shops.
14. The food supplied to all ranks of the armed forces is greatly superior to that available for the civilian population and amounts to a minimum of 3,500 calories a day. The monthly ration scale for privates is as follows:
- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| "Pasta" | 2.5 kgs. |
| Bread | 0.850 kgs (per day) |
| Meat | 4 kgs. |
| Rice | 1.80 kgs. |
| Sugar | 0.50 kgs. |
| Coffee | 0.125 kgs. |
| Oil | 0.750 kgs. |
| Vegetables | 1 kg. |
15. Conscription is for two years, but is subject to extension. The present class has been under arms for 29 months.
16. Officers and regular NCOs are in general well satisfied with service conditions; but the morale of conscripted privates and NCOs is low. Discipline for private soldiers is rigid; free passes are granted only once a week.

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